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MR. MR. HALLETT

Borough of Rowley Regis



Annual Report
OF THE
Medical Officer of Health
AND
Chief Sanitary Inspector
FOR THE YEAR
1935



FRANK ASKER, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.,
Medical Officer of Health.

Borough of Rowley Regis



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MEMBERS OF THE ROWLEY REGIS BOROUGH COUNCIL
(as at November, 1935).

Mayor :—

ALDERMAN B. HOBBS J.P., C.C.

Deputy Mayor :—

ALDERMAN D. M. CHAPMAN, J. P.

Aldermen :—

W. BLUNT	C. C.. LEWIS
B. HANCOX	T. PRICE
J. B. HOLDEN	T. THORNTON, J.P.

Councillors :—

E. ATTWOOD	J. MARKLEW
The REV. H. CARD, B.A. LTh.	S. NORWOOD
T. DEELEY, J.P.	J. J. NUTTING
D. EARP	W. OWEN
J. GAUNT	G. PALMER, J.P., C.C.
H. GRAINGER	J. P. PENNINGTON
J. GROVE	E. READ, C.C.
A. H. HANCOCK	C. E. O. SMITH
J. E. W. HICKTON	A. TAYLOR
J. B. HOLDEN	Miss S. E. WESLEY
T. C. HILL	J. WESTWOOD
H. JOHNSON	W. H. WILLIS

Co-opted Members of the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee ---

Mrs. G. J. BARNSELY	Mrs. D. LONG
Mrs. S. H. EARP	Mrs. A. SIMMONDS
Mrs. E. WEBSTER	

Public Health Department,

Haden Hill Park Offices,

Old Hill, Staffs.

June, 1936.

TO THE MAYOR, ALDERMEN AND COUNCILLORS.

Mr Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you the annual report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year ended 31st December, 1935 ; it is prepared in accordance with the instructions contained in the official circular issued by the Ministry of Health.

The work carried out during the year was similar to that undertaken in previous years and there is nothing outstanding to report. There was an increase in the number of cases of infectious diseases and at times difficulty was experienced in getting them into hospital. The question of the formation of a Joint Hospital Board and the provision of hospital accommodation (infectious diseases) was under consideration and most of the authorities concerned agreed to combine for this purpose. I think it will only be a matter of time now before the Board is definitely constituted and a hospital erected. As far as this authority is concerned it will mean a certain amount of increased expenditure but the increase in expenditure will be in no way comparable to the advantage we shall gain.

I should like to take this opportunity of placing on record the loyalty and assistance rendered to me by every member of the staff. I should also like to express my gratitude to the Chairman and Members of the Health and the Maternity and Child Welfare Committees for the courtesy and encouragement I have received from them.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

FRANK ASKER,

Medical Officer of Health.

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

Medical Officer of Health :—

FRANK ASKER, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Deputy Medical Officer of Health :—

I. M. GRAHAM, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.

Ophthalmic Surgeon (Part-time) :—

F. N. ROBERTS, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

Consulting Obstetric Specialists (Part-time) :—

LEWIS GRAHAM, M.S., F.R.C.S.

W. E. BARNIE-ADSHEAD, M.B., F.R.C.S.

Aural Surgeon (Part-time) :—

C. L. WALKER, F.R.C.S.Ed.

Dental Officer (Part-time) :—

L. HOWARD THOMPSON, L.D.S.

Sanitary Inspector :—

ALEC LONGFELLOW, A.R.San.I., M.S.I.A., M.Inst.P.C.,
Sanitary Inspector's Certificate, Meat and Food Inspector's
Certificate, Smoke Inspector's Certificate, Diploma of the
Institute of Public Cleansing.

Additional Sanitary Inspectors :—

W. WOOLDRIDGE, Sanitary Inspector's Certificate.

ELWYN THOMAS JENKINS, A.R.San.I., M.S.I.A., Sanitary
Inspector's Certificate, Meat and Food Inspector's Certificate,
Smoke Inspector's Certificate.

GORDON EDWARD CHAMBERLAIN, A.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.
Sanitary Inspector's Certificate, Meat and Food Inspector's
Certificate.

Sanitary Inspector's Assistant :—

REGINALD HEATH.

Health Visitors (who are also school Nurses) :—

N. E. CHILTON, S.R.N., C.M.B., Q.N.

T. BELLAMY, S.R.N., C.M.B., H.V.C.

A. E. HALLAM, S.R.N., C.M.B.

N. G. KAY, S.R.N., C.M.B., H.V.C., Q.N. (resigned 4th May 1935).

M. A. FELLOWS, S.R.N., C.M.B., H.V.C.

P. G. WATERS, S.R.N., C.M.B., H.V.C. (resigned
19th October, 1935).

W. H. BENNETT, S.R.N., C.M.B., H.V.C., (commenced
14th June, 1935).

Clerks :—

M. E. HARRIS

E. M. STEVENS (commenced 25-3-1935) { Whole-time jointly
C. BACHE { with School Medical
Department.

D. MORGAN, (Whole-time Sanitary Inspector's Clerk).

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.
VITAL STATISTICS.

Area (in acres)	3,828
Population : Census, 1931	41,235
Estimated, mid-year, 1935	42,420
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1935) according to Rate Books	10,779
Rateable Value at 31st December, 1935	£142,149
Sum represented by a penny rate at 31st March, 1935	£523 7s. 8d.
Estimated at 31st December, 1935	£546 0s. 0d.
	Total. M. F.
Live Births : Legitimate	693 354 339
Illegitimate	8 4 4
Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	16.53
Stillbirths	27 11 16
Rate per 1,000 total (live and still births)	37.09
Deaths	449 250 199
Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	10.58

C.F. 1.19—The crude death rate of the area should be multiplied by this factor in order to make it comparable, from a mortality point of view, with the crude death rate of the country as a whole or with the mortality of any other local area, the crude death rate of which should be similarly modified with its own factor for the purpose.

Deaths from puerperal causes (headings 29 and 30 of the Registrar General's (short list) :—

	Deaths,	Rate per 1,000 total (live and Still Births).
No. 29 Puerperal Sepsis	2	2.75
No. 30 other puerperal causes	1	1.37
Total	3	4.12

Death rate of infants under one year of age :—

All Infants per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	61.34
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	...			61.34
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	...			0.00
Deaths from :— Measles (all ages)	...	...		6
Whooping Cough (all ages)	...			10
Diarrhoæ (under 2 years of age)				6
Diphtheria	...	...		4
Scarlet Fever	...	...		2

BIRTHS.

It will be seen from the above statement that the birth-rate for Rowley Regis in 1935 was 16.53 as compared with 14.7 for England and Wales.

715 births were notified—28 by a doctor and 601 by a midwife and 86 Hospital notifications. The great majority of the births it will be seen, are notified and attended by midwives.

REGISTRAR-GENERAL'S SHORT LIST OF CAUSES OF
DEATH IN THIS AREA.

CAUSES OF DEATH	M.	F.	Total
ALL CAUSES	250	199	449
Measles	3	3	6
Scarlet Fever	—	2	2
Whooping Cough	4	6	10
Diphtheria	2	2	4
Influenza	5	3	8
Cerebro-spinal fever	—	1	1
Tuberculosis of respiratory system	13	14	27
Other tuberculous diseases	2	1	3
Cancer, malignant disease	27	25	52
Diabetes	1	3	4
Cerebral hæmorrhage, etc.	18	20	38
Heart disease	42	26	68
Other circulatory diseases	10	6	16
Bronchitis	14	13	27
Pneumonia (all forms)	23	11	34
Other respiratory diseases	3	2	5
Peptic ulcer	3	—	3
Diarrhœa, etc. (under 2 years)	6	—	6
Appendicitis	1	3	4
Cirrhosis of Liver	—	1	1
Other Liver Diseases	—	1	1
Other digestive diseases	5	—	5
Acute and chronic nephritis	11	7	18
Puerperal Sepsis... ..	—	2	2
Other puerperal causes	—	1	1
Congenital debility, premature birth, malformations, etc.	14	11	25
Senility	10	9	19
Suicide	2	1	3
Other violence	10	3	13
Other defined diseases	21	22	43
Deaths of Infants under 1 year :—			
Total	24	19	43
Legitimate	24	19	43
Illegitimate	—	—	—

SEASONAL MORTALITY.

	Deaths.	Death-rate per 1,000.	Rate for England and Wales.
First Quarter ...	136	12.84	13.3
Second Quarter ...	115	10.84	12.1
Third Quarter...	90	8.48	9.8
Fourth Quarter ...	108	10.16	12.0
	449	10.58	11.7

DEATHS IN PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS.

Institution.	Number.	Percentage of total deaths.
Sedgley Union Workhouse ...	26	5.79
The Guest Hospital, Dudley ...	17	3.79
General Hospital, Birmingham ...	8	1.78
Children's Hospital, Birmingham ...	10	2.00
Queen's Hospital, Birmingham ...	10	2.00
County Mental ...	4	.89
Hayley Green Isolation Hospital ...	2	.44
Women's Hospital, Birmingham ...	2	.44
Maternity Hospital, Birmingham ...	2	.44
Edge View T.B. Hospital ...	2	.44
Little Bromwich Hospital ...	2	.44
Corbett Hospital, Stourbridge...	4	.89
Sandfield House, Wordsley ...	4	.89
Other Institutions ...	19	4.23

GENERAL REMARKS ON THE DEATH RATE.

The death rate was 10.58 compared with 10.54 for last year.

“ Heart Disease ” was still the largest single cause of death, accounting for 68 deaths, but this term is now used to cover a number of deaths which would ,a decade ago, have been attributed to senility.

The next most important cause of death was malignant disease which caused 52 deaths.

Pneumonia accounted for 34 deaths (31 in 1934) and Bronchitis 27 deaths (30 in 1934).

8 deaths were caused by Influenza as compared with 6 last year.

Tuberculosis of the respiratory system caused 27 deaths. This subject is discussed later in the report dealing with infectious diseases.

38 deaths occurred from cerebral hæmmorrhage, etc. This is a disease of later life and its prevalence is probably associated with the increased mental and physical strain of modern life together with a tendency, in those who can afford it, to take more food than is actually required for satisfactory nutrition.

SOCIAL CONDITIONS AND OCCUPATIONS.

Although parts of the Tividale and Rowley Regis Wards are agricultural in character, very little grain is grown, the products being chiefly hay and root crops.

The district is essentially an industrial one, the manufacture of iron goods, such as nails, rivets, tubes, shovels, chains and anchors, hollow-ware, electric fitting works, and the making of bricks and tiles being the chief industries. Upon the hills are important quarries yielding a hard basaltic rock known as "Rowley Rag," largely used for paving and channelling purposes. Very little mining is now done in this area.

I am indebted to the Manager of the Ministry of Labour Employment Exchange, Cradley Heath for the following table showing the average weekly unemployment figures in respect of men, women, Boys and Girls in six monthly periods.

AVERAGE WEEKLY UNEMPLOYMENT.

Six months ending		Men	Women	Boys	Girls	Total weekly average.
June, 1932	...	7533	1226	197	86	9042
Dec., 1932	...	6436	954	142	74	7606
June, 1933	...	5441	626	90	51	6208
Dec., 1933	...	4798	524	40	20	5382
June, 1934	...	3733	323	15	13	4084
Dec., 1934	...	2697	455	15	26	3193
June, 1935	...	2482	335	11	12	2840
Dec., 1935	...	2028	346	12	9	2395

ABNORMAL SICKNESS OR MORTALITY.

There has been no unusual or excessive mortality during the year, nor have the occupations or environment of the district had any demonstrably detrimental effect upon the public health.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

As full details were given in the Annual Reports for 1930 and 1931, it is not necessary to deal with these matters in detail in this Report.

(1) *Public Health Officers of the Authority.*

This information is given at the commencement of the Report. In addition Dr. Welsh was employed as Anæsthetist (1 session per month) for the Maternity and Child Welfare and Ante-natal Dental Clinic.

(2) *Nursing in the Home.*

There are no new developments to report.

(3) *Laboratory Facilities.*

The Staffordshire County Council Laboratory has continued to carry out all requisite examinations of clinical material, water, milk and food stuffs.

(4) *Legislation in Force.*

Infectious Disease Prevention Act, 1890.

Public Health Act (Amendment) Act, 1890. Parts I, II, III. and V.

Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act, 1907. Part II (except sections 23, 24, 27 and 31 with certain reservations in the case of sections 25 and 30).

Part III (except sections 39 to 42 inclusive) with certain reservations in the case of sections 35 and 38.

Part IV (except sections 58, 61, 66 and 67).

Part VIII sections 87, 88, 89 and 90.

Part X. Sections 95.

These provisions cited as the Rowley Regis Urban (Public Health) Order, 1925, became effective in the 29th December, 1925.

Public Health Act, 1925. Parts II, III, IV, and V operative upon 21st April, 1926.

Public Health Acts (Amendment) Acts, 1890. Part IV, operative upon 9th April, 1929.

Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act, 1907, Part VI. operative upon 4th April, 1932.

Public Health Act, 1925. Part VI operative upon 4th April, 1932.

Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act, 1907, Section 27 operative upon 9th March, 1936.

(5) *Hospitals.*

There are no hospitals in the Borough.

(6) *Ambulance Facilities.*

During 1935 the Council decided to maintain its own ambulance service and purchased a Morris ambulance which was put into commission in June.

From the 20th June up to the end of December the ambulance covered 4,429.3 miles made up as follows :—

Street accidents	...	...	...	189.4 miles
Maternity cases (M. and C. W. Committee)				162.2 "
* Coroner's cases	...	...	...	20.2 "
* Public Assistance cases	...	...	...	352.1 "
Doctor's cases	...	...	...	3,516.6 "
Works accident cases	...	...	...	55.3 "
* Private bookings	...	...	...	42.3 "
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	91.2 "

* In these cases a fee of 1/- per mile is charged.

(7) *Clinics and Treatment Centres.*

The hours at which these are held are as follows :—

A.—Plant Street, Old Hill.

	When in Session.	Area served.
Infant Welfare Centre ...	Mondays, 2—5 p.m. Thursday, 2—5 p.m.	Cradley Heath. Old Hill.
Ante-natal Clinic ...	2nd and 4th Wednesdays at 10 a.m.	Cradley Heath and Old Hill.

B.—Carlyle Road, Rowley Regis.

	When in session	Area served.
Infant Welfare Centre ...	Wednesday, 2–5 p.m. Friday, 2—5 p.m.	Blackheath and Rowley Regis.
Ante-natal Clinic ...	1st and 3rd Wednesdays at 10 a.m.	Blackheath and Rowley Regis.
Aural Clinic ...	Once per month.	Whole of Borough.

C.—Public Offices, Dudley Road, Tividale.

	When in session	Area served.
Infant Welfare Centre ...	Tuesday, 2—5 p.m.	Tividale.
Ante-natal Clinic ...	1st Wednesday at 2.30 p.m.	Tividale.

D.—Knowle Infants School, Dudley Road, Springfield.

	When in session	Area served.
Infant Welfare Centre ...	Thursday, 2—5 p.m.	Rowley Regis (Springfield).

Ophthalmic and dental treatment is given by appointment.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

Before describing the administrative arrangements of, and work done under the Maternity and Child Welfare Scheme in the Borough, it is desirable to give under three headings particulars of the mortality which it is designed to combat :—

- (1) Maternal Mortality.
- (2) Infantile Mortality.
- (3) “ Young Child ” Mortality.

(1) *Maternal Mortality.*

There were 3 deaths classified under this heading in the Borough in 1935.

The maternal mortality rate was 2.75 per 1,000 total births from puerperal sepsis compared with 1.61 for England and Wales. As regards " Other Accidents and Diseases of Pregnancy and Parturition " the death rate here was 1.37 as compared with 2.32 per 1,000 total births for England and Wales. The total maternal mortality in Rowley Regis was therefore, 4.12 per 1,000 total births, as compared with 3.93 for England and Wales.

(2) *Infantile Mortality.*

The death rate of infants under 1 year of age per 1,000 births was :—

Legitimate	...	...	...	61.34
Illegitimate	...	...	...	0.00
Total	...	...	...	61.34

The table given below gives details of the causes of death of infants under 1 year of age :—

Cause of Death	under 1wk.	1—2 wks.	2—3 wks.	3—4 wks.	Total under 1 mth.	1—3 mths.	3—6 mths.	6—9 mths.	9—12 mths.	Totals
All Causes	18	2	2	—	22	5	7	6	3	43
Congenital Debility, etc. ...	18	2	—	—	20	1	3	1	—	25
Pneumonia ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	2	5
Bronchitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Enteritis ...	—	—	1	—	1	2	1	—	—	4
Convulsions ...	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Measles ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	2
Whooping Cough ...	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	2	—	5

As 22 deaths occurred under one month of age the neo-natal death rate per 1,000 live births was 31.09. Of these 20 were due to congenital debility, premature birth, malformations, etc. Neo-natal deaths are not capable of much more reduction although a few of them may, perhaps, be avoided in the future by more efficient ante-natal care. The congenital malformations, etc., are unpreventable.

(3) " Young Child " Mortality.

The " Young Child " mortality was 39.94 per 1,000 live births, compared with 16.79 last year. The following table gives particulars of the " Young Child " Mortality :—

CAUSE OF DEATH.	1-2 years	2-3 years	3-4 years	4-5 years	Totals.
ALL CAUSES.	18	4	3	3	28
Diphtheria	—	1	—	—	1
Pneumonia	5	1	1	2	9
Bronchitis	2	—	—	—	2
Tubercular Meningitis	1	—	—	—	1
Meningitis	1	—	—	—	1
Whooping Cough	2	—	—	—	2
Scarlet Fever	1	—	1	—	2
Enteritis	2	—	—	—	2
Measles	3	1	—	—	4
Other Causes	1	1	1	1	4

PUERPERAL FEVER AND PUERPERAL PYREXIA.

During 1935 four notifications of puerperal pyrexia were received and in all four cases a consultant was called in. Of these four cases in which the services of a consultant were utilised, two were afterwards admitted to hospital. The case rates per 1000 are best expressed in relation to the number of births registered rather than to the population, and when calculated on this basis, they are given in the annexed table. The rates are based on the total (i.e. live and still) births registered.

	Puerperal Fever.	Puerperal Pyrexia.	Totals.
Rowley Regis	—	5.49	5.49
England and Wales	3.60	9.44	13.04

MIDWIVES.

There are 12 midwives in the area and though there has been better co-operation between them and the Health Department during the year than previously there is still room for improvement.

No applications were made for payment under the arrangement for the payment of the fees of midwives employed as maternity nurses in necessitous cases.

MATERNITY SERVICES.

The following services are available in the area :—

- (1) Three Ante-Natal Clinics.
- (2) Ante-Natal Dental Clinics (12 sessions per year).
- (3) Milk foods—free or at reduced prices to expectant mothers.
- (4) The payment of fees to medical practitioners for ante-natal examinations of uninsured women who have engaged midwives for their confinement.
- (5) The payment of fees of midwives employed as maternity nurses in necessitous cases.
- (6) Consultants for ante-natal cases, cases of difficult labour, and cases of puerperal sepsis.
- (7) Hospital accommodation for complicated obstetric cases, cases where the home conditions are unsatisfactory, and cases of puerperal sepsis.
- (8) Sterilised maternity outfits supplied at cost prices.

HEALTH VISITING.

The number of visits paid by the Health Visitors is shown in the following table :—

	Visits.	Re-visits.	Total.
Expectant Mothers	98	64	162
Live Births	723	2129	2852
Children 1 to 5 years... ..	—	4637	4637
Still Births	15	—	15
Infant Deaths	27	—	27
Maternal Deaths	1	—	1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	2	3
Non-notifiable Infectious Diseases	190	20	210
Tuberculosis : County Council	53	609	662
Local Authority	19	67	86
Boarded-out Children ; County Council	—	14	14
Miscellaneous	318	33	351
	1445	7575	9020

In my report for 1934 I commented on the fact that there had been a decrease in the number of home visits made by the health

visitors which was accounted for the by fact that for part of the time we were under-staffed owing to resignations and illness. I am pleased to report that during 1935 the total number of visits was 9,020 as compared with 7,665 in 1934. There can be no doubt as to the importance of this branch of the health visitors work, though unfortunately in cases of illness or understaffing it is the branch of the work that suffers most. There was no alteration in the method of visiting, which was carried out as in previous years.

Children Act, 1908.

There was one child on the register during 1935. The Medical Officer of Health is the person designated to receive the necessary notices, and the health visitors would visit such children as come under the statute.

ORTHOPAEDIC TREATMENT.

As regards the prevention of crippling conditions, advice on infant feeding and infant hygiene, with a view to the prevention of rickets, is given on every possible occasion by the Medical officers in the clinics and the health visitors in the homes. When a health visitor notices any abnormality she persuades the mother to bring the child to the clinic for advice. Treatment is arranged both for in-patients and out-patients at the Cripples' Hospital, Birmingham, and for out-patients also at the Dudley Orthopaedic Clinic. At the Cripples Hospital, Birmingham, 1 child received treatment as an in-patient, and one child received treatment as an in-patient at the Royal Cripples Hospital, and as an out-patient at the Dudley Clinic. 18 other cases were treated as out-patients at Birmingham and 7 cases were treated as out-patients at the Dudley Clinic, being transferred there from the Cripples' Hospital, Birmingham. It is more convenient and more economical for patients residing in certain parts of the Borough to go to Dudley for treatment. As regards after-care, all patients are kept under regular supervision after the completion of their treatment and are sent back to the Cripples' Hospital if this course should be considered to be desirable.

INSTITUTIONAL PROVISION FOR UNMARRIED MOTHERS, ILLEGITIMATE CHILDREN AND HOMELESS CHILDREN.

There was no alteration in this respect in 1935.

WELFARE CENTRES.

(a)	Number of centres provided and maintained by the Council	...	...	...	...	...	4
(b)	Total number of attendances at all Centres during the year :—						
	(i.) By children under 1 year of age	...	...	...	...	6399	
	(ii) By children between the ages of 1 and 5 years					6722	
(c)	Total number of children who first attended at the Centres during the year and who on the date of their first attendance, were :—						
	(i.) Under 1 year of age	...	...	...	...	430	
	(ii) Between the ages of 1 and 5 years				...	103	
(d)	Total number of children who attended at the Centres during the year and who at the end of the year were :—						
	(i) Under 1 year of age	...	...	...	...	398	
	(ii) Between the ages of 1 and 5 years...				...	837	
(e)	Percentage of notified live births represented by the number in (d) (i)	...	...	...	...	61.96	

PLANT STREET, OLD HILL

Cradley Heath Session.

(a)	Total number of attendances at Centre during the year :—						
	(i.) By children under 1 year of age	...	...	...	...	1294	
	(ii.) By children between the ages of 1 and 5 years					1334	
(b)	Total number of children who first attended at the Centre during the year and who on the date of their first attendance were :—						
	(i.) Under 1 year of age	...	...	...	...	75	
	(ii.) Between the ages of 1 and 5 years				...	6	
(c)	Total number of children who attended at the Centres during the year and who at the end of the year, were :—						
	(i.) Under 1 year of age	...	...	...	...	78	
	(ii.) Between the ages of 1 and 5 years				...	168	
(d)	Average Attendance per session	...	...	...	...	55	

Old Hill Session :—

- (a) Total number of attendances at Centre during the year :—
- | | | | | |
|-------|---|-----|-----|------|
| (i.) | By children under 1 year of age | ... | ... | 1012 |
| (ii.) | By children between the ages of 1 and 5 years | | | 1234 |
- (b) Total number of children who first attended at the Centre during the year and who on the date of their first attendance, were :—
- | | | | | |
|-------|-----------------------------------|-----|-----|----|
| (i.) | Under 1 year of age | ... | ... | 58 |
| (ii.) | Between the ages of 1 and 5 years | | | 48 |
- (c) Total number of children who attended at the Centre during the year and who at the end of the year, were :—
- | | | | | |
|-------|-----------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|
| (i.) | Under 1 year of age | ... | ... | 64 |
| (ii.) | Between the ages of 1 and 5 years | | | 156 |
- (d) Average attendance per session 45

CARLYLE ROAD, ROWLEY REGIS.

Wednesday Session :—

- (a) Total number of attendances at Centre during the year :
- | | | | | |
|-------|---|-----|-----|------|
| (i.) | By children under 1 year of age | ... | ... | 2044 |
| (ii.) | By children between the ages of 1 and 5 years | | | 1663 |
- (b) Total number of children who first attended at the Centre during the year and who on the date of their first attendance, were :—
- | | | | | |
|-------|-----------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|
| (i.) | Under 1 year of age | ... | ... | 135 |
| (ii.) | Between the ages of 1 and 5 years | | | 27 |
- (c) Total number of children who attended at the Centre during the year and who at the end of the year, were :—
- | | | | | |
|-------|-----------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|
| (i.) | Under 1 year of age | ... | ... | 131 |
| (ii.) | Between the ages of 1 and 5 years | | | 230 |
- (d) Average attendance per session 77

Friday Session.

- (a) Total number of attendances at Centre during the year :
- | | | | | |
|-------|-----------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|
| (i.) | By children under 1 year of age | ... | ... | 976 |
| (ii.) | Between the ages of 1 and 5 years | | | 984 |

(b) Total number of children who first attended at the Centre during the year and who on the date of the first attendance, were :—

(i.) Under 1 year of age	...	...	...	73
(ii.) Between the ages of 1 and 5 years			...	3

(c) Total number of children who attended at the Centre during the year and who at the end of the year, were :—

(i.) Under 1 year of age	...	...	...	49
(ii.) Between the ages of 1 and 5 years			...	111

(d) Average attendance per session 42

SPRINGFIELD.

(a) Total number of attendances at Centre during the year :

(i.) By children under 1 year of age	...	...	266
(ii.) By children between the ages of 1 and 5 years			438

(b) Total number of children who first attended at the Centre during the year and who on the date of their first attendance, were :—

(i.) Under 1 year of age	...	...	...	18
(ii.) Between the ages of 1 and 5 years			...	7

(c) Total number of children who attended at the Centre during the year and who at the end of the year were :—

(i.) Under 1 year of age	...	...	...	20
(ii.) Between the ages of 1 and 5 years			...	44

(d) Average attendance per session 15

TIVIDALE.

(a) Total number of attendances at Centre during the year :

(i.) By children under 1 year of age	...	...	807
(ii.) By children between the ages of 1 and 5 years			1069

(b) Total number of children who first attended at the Centre during the year and who on the date of their first attendance, were :—				
(i.)	Under 1 year of age	...	...	71
(ii.)	Between the ages of 1 and 5 years		...	12
(c) Total number of children who attended at the Centre during the year and who at the end of the year, were :—				
(i.)	Under 1 year of age	...	...	56
(ii.)	Between the ages of 1 and 5 years		...	128
(d)	Average attendance per session	...	...	37

From the above particulars it will be seen that the total attendances at the Welfare Centres during 1935 was 13,121 as against 12,038 in 1934. This is a very satisfactory number of attendances and shows that the Centres fulfil a public need.

Dr. Graham reports as follows :—

“ The Infant Welfare Centres continue to run smoothly owing to the excellent co-operation between the staff and the voluntary workers to whom we owe much thanks.

As the object of the centres is primarily educational it is essential to encourage the mothers to attend as soon as possible after the birth of the child, so that they may receive proper advice and encouragement, on feeding, etc., before bad methods have been adopted and bad habits become established. Much assistance towards this end, can be given by the midwives and health visitors during their visits to the homes.

It is important too, to encourage the mothers to attend regularly with the children and to continue to attend till school age, when they come under the care of the school medical service. There is rather a tendency to fall off in attendances after the first year, at a time when supervision and attention are very necessary, to prevent various crippling and other defects which may arise at this period.”

ANTE-NATAL CLINICS.

Dr. Graham reports as follows :—

“ The work performed is summarised in the accompanying table

Clinics.	Sessions held.	Number Attending		Number of attendances.	Number of post natal attendances	Average attendance per session.
		New Cases	Old Cases			
Old Hill	21	59	4	148	1	7
Rowley Regis	29	81	16	265	—	9
Tividale	11	37	6	88	3	8
Total	61	177	26	501	4	8

There is a certain amount of satisfaction to be derived from the fact that the numbers of attendances at the ante-natal clinics continue to increase although the figures are still too small for the size of the area. However, it has been necessary throughout the year to hold some extra sessions at Rowley Regis, as it is found that most of the women keep their appointments for re-attendance well, unless prevented by some unforeseen factor such as illness in the home.

The advice given at the clinics is largely educational, and stresses the importance of general hygiene, suitable diet, and a healthy mental outlook.

Women who are considered to be in need of extra nourishment are supplied with dried milk, etc., if necessary, at reduced prices or free.

The dried milk containing iron appears to be specially valuable.

Women accepting ante-natal dental treatment can now be supplied with dentures, free or at reduced rates when this is necessary. This innovation should go some way towards reducing the reluctance of expectant mothers to part with septic teeth.

It is to be feared that many expectant women do not co-operate as much as they might in the efforts to secure their welfare. They must be encouraged to cultivate “preventive minds” in health matters.

They are often too ready to listen to the uninformed advice of “the woman next door.”

The facilities for obtaining specialist advice and hospital treatment when necessary are the same as before, and cases requiring medical attention are referred to their private doctors."

ENLARGED TONSILS AND ADENOIDS.

During 1935, 3 children under five years of age suffering from enlarged tonsils and adenoids, and 3 suffering from enlarged tonsils making a total of 6 cases, received operative treatment at the Children's Hospital, Birmingham. The arrangement under which these cases are sent for operation avoids any long period of waiting.

All operation cases are examined shortly beforehand to make sure that they are fit for operation, and again ten to fourteen days afterwards, to ascertain if the result is satisfactory and to advise parents as to the necessary after-treatment by breathing exercise.

TREATMENT OF SURGICAL DEFECTS.

Under arrangements made by the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee, seven cases of phimosis received operative treatment at the Children's Hospital, Birmingham.

DENTAL TREATMENT.

This is now provided both in respect of children under five years of age and for expectant mothers. The subjoined table shows the work done during 1935 as compared with 1934 :—

<i>Expectant Mothers :</i>				1934	1935
Sessions	...	...	...	12	12
Number treated	...	...	...	32	50
Number of attendances	...	...	...	43	62
Extractions	...	...	...	102	144
Fillings	...	...	...	—	4
Scalings	...	...	...	—	1
Administration of general anæsthetics	...	...	...	33	54
<i>Children under five years of age :</i>					
Sessions	...	...	...	24	24
Number treated	...	...	...	168	213
Number of attendances	...	...	...	208	262
Extractions	...	...	...	565	758
Fillings	...	...	...	17	11
Administration of general anæsthetics	...	...	...	163	230

Where treatment of an expectant mother had been commenced, it was in a few cases completed after the confinement.

Treatment under nitrous-oxide anæsthesia was given at any period of pregnancy after the end of the third month and no untoward results were reported.

During the year the Committee decided to make arrangements for the provision of artificial dentures for ante-natal cases.

A scale of charges—varying according to the number of teeth per denture—was adopted. In cases of financial hardship the Committee have power to reduce or waive the charge to the patient. No scale of income was adopted as it was decided that any reduction in charges should only take place by resolution of the Committee after the case had been investigated.

Mr. L. H. Thompson reports as follows :—

“ As will be seen by reference to the table headed Dental Treatment there has been a fairly substantial increase in the number of cases treated, but the number of fillings performed is still much too low. Unfortunately the children are only brought up for treatment when they have toothache and then it is generally too late to save the teeth. To have a really successful dental scheme it would be necessary to hold more sessions and inaugurate some scheme of systematic inspection comparable to the school inspection. In this way dental caries would be detected in its early stages when it was still capable of being dealt with by conservative treatment.

With regard to the ante-natal cases referred from the ante-natal clinics, many of them have extensive pyorrhœa which necessitates wholesale extractions.

In the latter part of the year the Committee decided to introduce a scheme for providing dentures where necessary to ante-natal cases and I feel sure that this will be reflected in an increased attendance at the ante-natal dental clinics as the women will be more ready to have their teeth extracted when they know that they will be able to have them replaced by artificial dentures. Most of the extractions were carried out under nitrous oxide anæsthesia administered by one of the medical officers.

In conclusion I should like to thank all who have assisted me during the year."

There is no doubt that the dental treatment of children under school age is far from satisfactory as regards the numbers treated and this is likely to remain so until a scheme of dental inspection is introduced. The Board of Education have recommended that the dentist should be employed whole-time and if this were done it would be possible to introduce a system of inspection similar to the one at present in operation in the schools. At present the pre school children are only presented for treatment as a result of toothache which usually necessitates extractions. If the Committee cannot see their way clear to the appointment of a whole-time dentist they should certainly consider the question of increasing the number of sessions devoted to M. and C. W. Dental work.

EAR DISEASE AND DEFECTIVE HEARING.

A special aural clinic in charge of Mr. C. L. Walker, F.R.C.S.Ed. is held once monthly at Rowley Regis Clinic to which school children and children under school age suffering from ear defects are referred. During the year 3 children have received treatment—9 attendances.

OPHTHALMIC TREATMENT.

This work was performed at both the Old Hill and Rowley Regis Clinics, and the work is tabulated below :—

First refractions	...	...	...	17
Squints (included in above)	...	...	...	2
Re-fractions	...	...	...	7
Glasses prescribed	...	...	...	14
Glasses obtained : Local Authority	...	...	...	5
Privately	...	...	...	8
Special examinations	...	...	...	24
Total cases seen	...	...	...	27

Dr. Roberts, Ophthalmic Surgeon, reports as follows :—

" I beg to report on the work of the Maternity and Child Welfare Ophthalmic Clinic. The work carried out during the year has been more or less the same as in previous years. I am glad to report good results with cases of strabismus. Several probings of imperforate tear ducts have been performed and with good results. One case of congenital cataract was needled

by me at the Dudley Guest Hospital with excellent results.
I want to thank the staff for their co-operation during the year.
F. N. ROBERTS."

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

WATER.

The water supply is by the South Staffordshire Water Works Company, and maintains a satisfactory standard. No form of contamination has been brought to the notice to the local Authority. The Company has supplied the following statement of extension of water mains during the year 1935.

Locality.					Length of Main Yards.	Size of main.
Tibbetts Garden	...	...	...	...	103	3"
Throne Road Estate	...	...	...	...	504	4"
Park View Estate	...	...	...	...	83	4"
Rowley Hall Estate	...	...	...	...	581	4"
Grace Mary Estate	...	...	...	...	872	4"
Tividale Hall Estate	...	...	...	...	588	4"
Road off Throne Road	...	...	...	...	181	4"
Best Street, Old Hill	...	...	...	...	141	4"
Woodall Street, Cradley Heath	...	...	...	...	32	3"
Blue Bell Road, Old Hill	...	...	...	...	15	3"

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

The Borough Surveyor reports that during 1935 the following works have been carried out :—

Extensions to Sewers :—

Wolverhampton Road 9-in. Foul sewer	...	35 yards.
Oakham Road ... 9-in. Foul sewer	...	60 yards.

Extensions to storm-water sewer :—

Groveland Brook 18-in. pipes	...	...	168 yards.
Halesowen Road 15-in. pipes	...	...	280 yards.
Peartree Lane 15-in. pipes	...	...	60 yards.
Haden Hill 12-in. pipes	...	...	22 yards.

Stormwater sewers relaid :—Regis Road, Powke Lane, Curral Road,
Carnegie Road, Salop Street, Barrs
Road.

All ditches have been cleaned out and Mousesweet Brook has been cleansed (from Brook Lane to Newtown Street.)

Drainage work carried out by the staff of the Sanitary department :—

Number of yards of new drain laid	...	576
New sewer connections	...	5
New gullies fixed	...	23
New intercepting traps fixed	...	8
New ventilation pipes fixed	...	8
New inspection chambers fixed	...	17
Number of drains unstopped	...	196
Number of drains tested	...	1
New cess-pools provided	...	3

RIVERS AND STREAMS.

No complaints, as regards pollution of streams, were received during the year.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

W.C. and Ashpit Accommodation in the Borough at the end of December, 1935 :—

Wards.	No. of W.C's.	No. of Bins	No. of Privies.	No. of Pails.	No. of Ashpits.	No. of Cess-pools
Cradley Heath ...	2403	2451	8	30	—	—
Old Hill ...	2600	2773	4	12	1	—
Blackheath ...	1655	1951	—	2	—	—
Rowley Regis ...	2793	2925	15	46	1	5
Tividale ...	1202	1119	23	21	—	6
Totals ...	10653	11219	50	111	2	11

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

In June an additional freighter was put into commission. No extra men were employed but the loaders were equally distributed amongst the vehicles making three loaders and one driver per vehicle, as against previously four loaders and one driver.

The most economical working of the vehicles in this district is done by four loaders per vehicle and as the district extends the numbers will be increased. The extra vehicle which is of the "Chelsea" type is at present engaged half time on collection services and half time collecting and delivering covering material to the tips. This has proved to be a great advantage in the disposal service.

At the end of the year the old embankment of black ashes between Lawrence Lane and Mace Street, covering a distance of about 200 yards, was removed, the material being used chiefly on the Cradley Heath and Waterfall Lane disposal centres.

This procedure has opened out an area which will form a street for a short cut from Mace street to Lawrence Lane, besides providing a free air flow amongst property of that area instead of an unsightly old mineral railway embankment.

WATERFALL LANE MARL HOLE.

The Committee thought it desirable that this huge Hole should be emptied of its water content and a goodly sum was spent for this purpose. This accounts in some measure for the increased cost of the disposal services. After the hole was emptied by siphonage it was found necessary to install an electric non-clog rotary pump, and this has been in operation and working practically continuously for nine months.

During the period as much refuse as possible has been placed in the hole and this has totalled 1023 loads (2,711 tons) during the year. During the summer months disposal at this centre was held in abeyance to obviate the possibility of nuisance.

During the year the three existing vehicles were repainted and lettered by the Council's workmen and a general overhaul of the vehicles was completed.

CLEANSING SERVICE.

HOUSE AND TRADE REFUSE.

Table showing Costs for the Year ending 31st March, 1935.

Item : Particulars.		I.—Collection, with depreciation or loan charges included or excluded		II.—Disposal, with depreciation or loan charges included or excluded		Total, with depreciation or loan charges included or excluded	
(1)	(2)	Included. (3)	Excluded. (4)	Included. (5)	Excluded. (6)	Included. (7)	Excluded. (8)
REVENUE ACCOUNT.							
A.	Gross Expenditure ...	£ 2935 0 0	£ 2535 0 0	£ 1244 0 0	£ 1076 0 0	£ 4179 0 0	£ 3611 0 0
B.	Gross Income ...	20 0 0	—	—	—	20 0 0	—
C.	Net Cost ...	2915 0 0	2535 0 0	1244 0 0	1076 0 0	4159 0 0	3611 0 0
UNIT COSTS.							
D.	Gross Expenditure per ton ...	£ 5 5	£ 4 8	£ 2 3½	£ 1 11¾	£ 7 8½	£ 6 7¾
E.	Gross Income per ton ...	½	—	—	—	½	—
F.	Net Cost per ton ...	4 4½	4 8	2 3½	1 11¾	7 8	6 7¾
G.	Net Cost per 1,000 population ...	69 10 5	60 9 4	29 13 4	25 13 4	99 3 9	86 2 4
H.	Net costs, per 1,000 houses or premises from which refuse is collected ...	280 12 3	244 0 7	119 15 1	103 11 7	400 7 4	347 12 2
RATE POUNDAGE.							
J.	Net cost ; equivalent rate in the £	d. 5.65	d. 4.91	d. 2.41	d. 2.09	d. 8.06	d. 7
K.	Percentage of J to total rate in the £	3.2%	2.8%	1.4%	1.2%	4.6%	4%

1. Total refuse collected (in tons) 10,850 tons 8 cwts. E.
2. Population : Midsummer 1935—41,930.
3. Area (Statute acres)—3,828.
4. Weight—(in cwt.) per 1,000 population per day (365 days to year)—14.17.
5. Number of houses and premises—10,388.
6. Rateable value—£129,057.
7. Product of a penny rate—£516. Net.
8. Total rates in £—14/6d.
9. Method of collection—

			Percentage of Refuse Collected.
Mechanical vehicles	...	4	100%
10. Method of disposal :—

Controlled tipping	...	...	100%
--------------------	-----	-----	------
11. Average length of haul—1¼ miles.
12. No. of employees, other than clerical :—

Collection,	16	Disposal,	3
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A. THE NUMBER AND NATURE OF INSPECTIONS MADE
DURING THE YEAR, 1935.

HOUSES.

Recorded under the Housing Regulations :—

Houses where no defects were found to exist	78
Houses where defects were found to exist ...	820
Houses dangerous or injurious as to be unfit	251
	—1149

Under Public Health Acts :—

Houses where no defects were found to exist	25
Houses where defects were found to exist ...	133— 158

TOTAL NUMBER OF HOUSES inspected during
the year 1935 1307

REVISITS to houses for work in progress ... 5045

SYNOPSIS OF OTHER INSPECTIONS MADE.

Nature	No of Individual premises visited	Total Number of Inspections made
Verminous Premises	226	296
Drains	418	548
Urinals	4	4
Slaughterhouses	25	2192
Offensive Trades	1	15
Foodstores	2718	2735
Stables and Animals kept	27	33
Piggeries	19	24
Factories	54	62
Workshops	68	110
Bakehouses :—		
Factories	22	63
Workshops	12	34
Cowsheds	35	55
Dairies	16	55
Manure Pits	7	8
Canal Boats	28	28
Van Dwelling	1	1
Carbide Stores	6	7
Petroleum Stores	92	116
Smoke	13	13
Infectious Disease	238	429
Cinemas	5	14
Complaints investigated	110	110
Defective Dust Bins	532	1098

INTERVIEWS WITH OWNERS ... 720

Nature of Defects or Nuisances discovered during 1935.	No. of Defects found	No. of Defects remedied by		Total No. of Defects remedied
		Informal action	Formal action	
DWELLING HOUSES :				
Defective roofs	347	140	25	165
Defective chimneys .. .	303	140	40	170
Perished brickwork and defective joints ...	519	228	46	274
Defective or no spouting	335	105	39	144
Obstructive spouting	20	8	1	9
Dampness	829	130	1	131
Dirty dwelling houses... ..	20	20	—	20
Dirty bedrooms	455	147	15	162
Dirty living rooms	298	87	8	95
Dirty staircases	234	55	9	64
Dirty pantries	104	40	4	44
Dirty floors	3	4	—	4
Defective staircases	170	80	17	97
No handrails	388	100	17	117
Defective floors	440	202	40	242
Defective doors—cases, etc.	471	147	42	189
Defective ceiling plaster	570	163	17	180
Defective wall plaster... ..	776	274	33	307
Defective firegrates and firegrate brick- work	387	108	18	126
Defective window frames and fastenings ...	931	265	59	324
Fixed windows	260	125	25	150
Defective sash cords	605	185	23	208
Insufficient light and ventilation in pantry	36	24	1	25
Insufficient light and ventilation in dwelling houses	68	39	3	42
Insufficient light and ventilation on staircase	1	1	—	1
No ventilation under floor	—	—	5	5
No pantry accommodation	7	4	—	4
Coal kept in pantry	—	3	—	3
Water and sewage in cellars	22	12	—	12
Dangerous walls	26	19	2	21
Defective door steps	88	57	15	72
Filthy yard areas	2	3	—	3
Defective, insufficient, or no yard pave- ment	262	144	21	165

Nature of Defects or Nuisances discovered during 1935.	No. of Defects found	No. of Defects remedied by		Total No. of Defects remedied
		Informal action	Formal action	
Defective skirting and match boarding	55	5	1	6
Defective mantle shelves	6	3	—	3
Defective cellar covers	26	12	2	14
Verminous houses	94	76	—	76
Overcrowding	3	1	—	1
Defective and dangerous outbuildings ...	34	5	4	9
Insanitary structures	23	12	—	12
Verandah roofs	24	6	—	6
Accumulations	48	44	3	47
Owners name not on rent book ...	2	3	—	3
Insufficient and insanitary ashpits ...	65	18	3	21
Defective dust bins	661	497	169	666
Defective dust bin shelters	7	1	—	1
Defective coalhouse doors, casements &c.	94	24	10	34
Defective coalhouse roofs	8	5	7	12
Defective cupboards	55	1	—	1
No coalhouse accommodation ...	8	1	5	6
Defective pantry steps, and sills	21	6	2	8
External woodwork requires painting ...	297	115	26	141
Power of entry	1	—	24	24
Notice to attend committee re demolition order	58	—	55	55
Demolition orders	38	—	32	32
Notice to occupiers of dwelling houses of demolition orders which have become operative	34	—	18	18
Notice to attend committee re closing order	3	—	3	3
Closing Orders	4	—	7	7
Notice to Owners of dwelling house giving seven days notice to enter property to carry out repairs	3	—	3	3
WASHHOUSES.				
Defective roofs	327	104	20	124
Defective chimneys	232	66	19	85
Perished brickwork and defective joints	394	123	25	148
Defective and dangerous walls ...	51	19	5	24

Nature of Defects or Nuisances discovered during 1935.	No. of Defects found	No. of Defects remedied by		Total No. of Defects remedied
		Informal action	Formal action	
Defective or no spouting ...	609	158	37	195
Defective doors, casements and sills ...	458	86	19	105
Defective door steps ...	61	7	4	11
Defective window frames & fastenings ...	151	52	18	70
Fixed windows ...	20	12	2	14
Defective sash cords ...	15	4	—	4
Defective floors ...	273	117	21	138
Defective ceilings ...	80	30	6	36
Insufficient light and ventilation ...	13	5	2	7
Defective wall plaster... ..	26	9	6	15
Defective firegrates and firegrate brick- work ...	72	37	11	48
Filthy washhouses ...	122	43	7	50
Insanitary sinks ...	128	87	12	99
No sinks ...	1	1	2	3
Defective boilers ...	20	8	1	9
No boilers ...	5	—	2	2
Defective boiler fireplace ...	114	43	9	52
Defective boiler brickwork ...	110	38	3	41
Defective and obstructed sink waste pipes	19	6	3	9
Insufficient water supply ...	50	47	6	53
Foul and defective soft water cisterns and wells ...	33	5	2	7
Dilapidated and dangerous washhouses ...	15	6	2	8
Insanitary baking ovens ...	60	22	4	26
Fowls kept in washhouse ...	—	1	—	1
Coal kept in washhouse ...	1	—	—	—
Insufficient washhouse accommodation ...	8	13	4	17
Insanitary chain hearths ...	35	—	—	—
Dampness ...	5	1	—	1
External woodwork requires painting ...	76	4	—	4
DRAINS AND W.C.'s.				
Defective drains ...	9	8	1	9
Obstructed drains ...	38	37	1	38
Insufficient drainage ...	14	19	—	19
Defective gullies ...	3	—	—	—
Broken inspection chambers and covers	1	4	—	4

Nature of Defects or Nuisances discovered during 1935.	No. of Defects found	No. of Defects remedied by		Total No. of Defects remedied
		Informal action	Formal action	
Defective roofs of w.c.'s.	131	39	12	51
Defective floors of w.c.'s	64	32	1	33
Defective doors, door-casements and fastenings	219	70	16	86
Insufficient w.c. accommodation ...	38	13	9	22
Defective or no seats	110	40	4	44
Defective walls of w.c.'s	38	7	1	8
Obstructed w.c.'s	12	4	—	4
Defective flushing Apparatus	68	24	4	28
Broken w.c. pans and joints	126	45	7	52
Burst service pipes	7	6	—	6
Obstructed w.c.'s	12	4	—	4
Defective flushing Apparatus	68	24	4	28
Insufficient light and ventilation ...	5	2	—	2
Dirty w.c.'s	55	25	—	25
Defective brickwork and joints in walls ...	126	40	2	42
Dilapidated w.c.'s	14	—	1	1
Insufficient water supply	—	1	—	1
Defective door steps	44	11	2	13
Defective soil and vent pipes	9	2	—	2
Defective or no spouting	93	10	—	10
Foul privies	5	6	—	6
Insanitary cesspools	1	1	—	1
Defective pail closets	—	1	—	1
SLAUGHTERHOUSES.				
Dirty slaughterhouses	11	11	—	11
Dirty fasting pens	22	14	—	14
Defective walls	1	2	—	2
Defective offal receptacles	4	3	—	3
Accumulations	2	4	—	4
BAKEHOUSES.				
Filthy bakehouses	8	9	—	9
Defective roofs	1	—	—	—
Dirty w.c.'s	3	—	—	—
No bread store	—	1	—	1

Nature of Defects or Nuisances discovered during 1935.				No. of Defects found	No. of Defects remedied by		Total No. of Defects remedied
					Informal action	Formal action	
Unpaved area	...	...	...	—	1	—	1
FOODSTORE.							
Filthy foodstores	...	...	...	9	8	—	8
No washing facilities	...	...	...	3	1	—	1
Insufficient water supply	...	...	...	2	1	—	1
Defective ceilings	...	...	...	2	—	—	—
Contamination of meat	...	...	...	—	3	—	3
Defective flue pipe to stove	...	...	...	—	1	—	1
Insufficient ventilation	...	...	...	1	1	—	1
Accumulations	...	...	...	1	1	—	1
Dirty w.c.'s	...	...	...	1	2	—	2
DAIRIES.							
Dirty dairies	...	...	...	2	3	—	3
Harness kept in dairy	...	...	...	1	1	—	1
No name on vehicle	...	...	...	1	1	—	1
COWSHEDS.							
Dirty cowsheds	...	...	...	11	5	—	5
Accumulations of manure	...	...	...	1	1	—	1
Defective floors	...	...	...	3	—	—	—
Defective wooden partition	...	...	...	4	3	—	3
Insufficient light and ventilation	...	...	...	1	—	—	—
STABLES AND ANIMALS KEPT :							
Dirty stables	...	...	...	8	10	—	10
Defective manure receptacles	...	...	...	1	1	—	1
Accumulations	...	...	...	5	6	—	6
Animals kept so as to be a nuisance	...	...	...	—	2	—	2
PIGGERIES.							
Dirty piggeries	...	...	...	13	17	—	17
Insufficient drainage	...	...	...	1	1	—	1
Accumulations	...	...	...	—	2	—	2
URINALS.							
Insanitary	...	...	...	—	4	—	4

Nature of Defects or Nuisances discovered during 1935.	No. of Defects found	No. of Defects remedied by		Total No. of Defects remedied
		Informal action	Formal action	
WORKSHOPS				
Dirty Workshops	18	14	—	14
Dilapidated and dangerous workshops	13	15	7	22
Defective roofs	6	3	—	3
Defective brickwork and joints	3	—	1	1
Defective chimneys	5	1	1	2
Defective doors	—	—	1	1
Defective window frames	1	—	1	1
Disused chain hearths	35	5	—	5
Insufficient water supply	—	1	—	1
Insufficient w.c. accommodation	1	2	—	2
FACTORIES.				
Insufficient w.c. accommodation	4	8	—	8
Filthy latrines	—	1	—	1
Insufficient urinals	—	1	—	1
MANURE PITS.				
Accumulations	1	2	—	2
SMOKE NUISANCES.	—	1	—	1
CINEMAS.				
Defective w.c. roofs	2	2	—	2
Defective flushing apparatus	1	2	—	2
Defective w.c. seats	1	1	—	1
Filthy w.c.'s	1	2	—	2
No spouting to w.c.	1	1	—	1
Obstructed drains	2	2	—	2
CANAL BOATS.				
Master had no certificate	1	—	—	—
MARKETS.				
Insufficient ventilation	1	1	—	1

RAT BAITs : Number taken by rats ... 50

B. THE NUMBER OF NOTICES SERVED DURING THE
YEAR, 1935.

(Distinguishing Statutory from Informal).

The number of :—

INFORMAL NOTICES on the books, 31st December, 1934	...	...	...	...	356
FORMAL NOTICES on the books 31st December, 1934.	...	...	...	...	107
INFORMAL NOTICES SERVED DURING THE year, 1935	...	...	...	...	1508
FORMAL NOTICES served during the year 1935	...				303
					—— 2274

C. THE RESULT OF THE SERVICE OF SUCH NOTICES.

INFORMAL NOTICES complied with in 1935, which were outstanding 31st December, 1934	...				306
INFORMAL NOTICES complied with in 1935, which were served during the year...	...	...	...		807
FORMAL NOTICES complied with in 1935, which were outstanding 31st December, 1934	...				74
FORMAL NOTICES complied with in 1935, which were served during the year...	...	...	...		173
					—— 1363
TOTAL NUMBER OF NOTICES on the books, 31st December, 1935 (For analysis see below)	...				911
Formal	...	...	...	...	160
Informal	...	...	...	...	751
					—— 911

DETAILED PARTICULARS OF COMPLAINTS,

made during the year, 1935.

respecting alleged nuisances and defects.

Defective houses	...	...	...	...	...	109
Verminous houses and premises			...	...	...	54
Filthy dwelling houses		...	...	...	...	4
Dangerous workshops		...	...	...	...	2
Defective dustbins	...	...	...	...	...	82
Foul privies and ashpits		...	...	...	...	4
Water and sewage in cellars	...	...	...	...	...	3
Insanitary structures in yard areas			...	...	...	3
Insufficient w.c. accommodation			...	...	...	2
Obstructed and defective drains			...	...	...	113
Insufficient drainage	...	...	...	...	...	2
Offensive smells	...	...	...	...	...	12
Smoke nuisances	...	...	...	...	...	4
Stables and animals kept		...	...	...	...	2
Accumulations	...	...	...	...	...	9
Dirty piggeries	...	...	...	...	...	1
Burst water pipe	...	...	...	...	...	1
Defective urinals	...	...	...	...	...	1

DETAILS OF PROSECUTIONS AND SUMMONSES SERVED.

Date.	Place.	Nature of Offence	Result.
1935 9th Oct.	No. 16 High Street, Black Heath ...	Failing to properly protect meat from dust ...	Fine £1.
9th Oct.	Ditto.	Aiding and abetting re the above ...	Fine £1.
9th Oct.	No. 178 High Street, Black Heath. ...	Failing to properly protect meat from dust ...	Dismissed
9th Oct.	Ditto.	Aiding and abetting re the above. ...	Ditto.

CANAL BOATS.

Total number of boats inspected	...	24
Number of boats conforming to the Acts and Regulations	... ..	23
Number of boats infringing the Acts and Regulations	... ..	1
Total number for which the cabins were registered	... ..	96
Total number occupying the cabins	...	86
Details of occupation : Male adults	...	27
Female adults	...	28
Children of School age	...	21
Children under School age	...	10
		—
		86

Details showing numbers infringing in respect of :—

Absence of certificate	... ..	1
	—	
Total cases met with	1	
	—	
Total cases remedied	... ..	0
Number of printed forms issued	...	1
Number still corresponding about	...	1

ADMINISTRATION OF THE FACTORY AND WORKSHOPS ACT, 1901.

A report as to the Inspections made is given below.

1.—Inspection of Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.

Premises (1)	Number of		
	Inspections (2)	Written Notices (3)	Occupiers prosecuted (4)
Factories (including Factory Laundries) ...	125	14	—
Workshops (including Workshop Laundries)	159	32	—
Workplaces (other than Outworkers' premises)	—	—	—
Total	284	46	—

2.—Defects found in Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.

Particulars (1)	Number of Defects			Number of offences in respect to which Prosecutions were instituted (5)
	Found (2)	Reme- died (3)	Referred to H.M. Inspector '4' (4)	
<i>Nuisances under the Public Health Acts:</i>				
Want of cleanliness	29	24	—	—
Want of ventilation	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding	—	—	—	—
Want of drainage of floors	—	—	—	—
Other nuisances	64	38	—	—
Sanitary accommodation :				
Insufficient	5	10	—	—
Unsuitable or defective	—	1	—	—
Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—
<i>Offences under the Factory and Workshop Acts :</i>				
Illegal occupation of underground bake- house (s.101)	—	—	—	—
Other offences (excluding offences re- lating to outwork and offences under the Sections mentioned in the Schedule to the Ministry of Health (Factories and Workshops Transfer of Powers) Order, 1921)...	—	—	—	—
Total ...	98	73	—	—

OUTWORKERS.

During the year 48 lists have been received containing 297 names. 11 reminders were sent out to employers.

SMOKE ABATEMENT.

Generally there is little action taken under this head, owing to the industrial nature of the district.

SCHOOLS.

The water supply is through the South Staffordshire Waterworks Company and in itself is satisfactory. The closet accommodation is of the trough type. School accommodation is from time to time inspected and various defects are remedied by the Education Committee.

Water samples of the school swimming bath are taken periodically.

HOUSING.

1. Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the Year :—

(1)	(a)	Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health & Housing Acts)	1759
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	5045
(2)	(a)	Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	1149
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	1689
(3)		Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	251
(4)		Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	1260

2.	Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notices :—		
	Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the local authority or their officers	... ..	642
3.	Action under statutory powers during the year :—		
	(a).—Proceedings under sections 17, 18 and 23 of the Housing Act, 1930.		
	(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs		50
	(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :		
	(a) By owners	... ..	33
	(b) By local authority in default of owners		3
	(b).—Proceedings under Public Heath Acts :—		
	(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	... ..	10
	(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—		
	(a) By owners	... ..	9
	(b) By local authority in default of owners		—
	(c).—Proceedings under sections 19 and 21 of the Housing Act, 1930 :—		
	(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which demolition orders were made	...	38
	(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of demolition orders	...	32
	(d).—Proceedings under section 20 of the Housing Act, 1930 :—		
	(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which closing orders were made	... ..	4

- (2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which closing orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit... .. —

In addition to the above notices were served in respect of defective dustbins as follows :—

Preliminary notices served	...	...	...	462
Preliminary notices complied with	...	...	...	478
Legal notices served	...	...	...	210
Legal notices complied with by owner	...	...	...	138
Legal notices complied with by local authority	...	...	...	17

<i>Year.</i>	<i>Situation of properties upon which demolition orders have been made.</i>
1935.	No. 50, Oldbury Road, Black Heath. No. 16, Dudley Road, Rowley Regis. Herbert Welding, Eagle Bank, Powke Lane, Black Heath. No. 17, Dudley Road, Rowley Regis. No. 18, Dudley Road, Rowley Regis. No. 7, Grainger's Lane Cradley Heath. No. 22, Brook Lane, Old Hill. No. 51, Dudley Wood Road, Cradley Heath. No. 120' Whiteheath, Black Heath. No. 121, Whiteheath, Black Heath. No. 101, Waterfall Lane, Black Heath. No. 30, Eagle Bank, Powke Lane, Black Heath. No. 56, Causeway Road, Black Heath. No. 88, Birmingham Road, Black Heath. No. 89, Birmingham Road, Black Heath. No. 38, Garratts Lane, Old Hill. No. 39, Garratts Lane, Old Hill. No. 222, Oldbury Road, Black Heath. No. 223, Oldbury Road, Black Heath. No. 224, Oldbury Road, Black Heath. No. 14, Albion Street, Tividale. No. 15, Albion Street, Tividale. No. 7, Britannia Street, Tividale. No. 8, Britannia Street, Tividale. No. 9, Britannia Street, Tividale. No. 10, Britannia Street, Tividale.

No. 11, Britannia Street, Tividale.
 No. 12, Britannia Street, Tividale.
 No. 237, Dudley Road, Tividale.
 No. 2, Hainge Collieries, Tividale.
 No. 4, King Street, Old Hill.
 No. 110, Wright's Lane, Old Hill.
 No. 111, Wright's Lane, Old Hill.
 No. 37, Woods Lane, Cradley Heath.
 No. 63, Birmingham Road, Blackheath.
 No. 144, Halesowen Street, Black Heath.
 No. 145, Halesowen Street, Black Heath
 No. 14, Yew Tree Lane, Rowley Regis.

(An agreement was subsequently made that this house should not be relet for human habitation after it is vacated).

Closing Orders have been made on the following properties :—

No. 19, Yew Tree Lane Rowley Regis.
 No. 5, Oakham, Tividale, (side portion).
 No. 5, Oakham, Tividale, (rear portion).
 No. 5, Oakham, Tividale, (front portion).

Houses repaired by the council under section 17 of the Housing Act, 1930.

<i>Situation of the property.</i>	<i>Expenses incurred by the council in the execution of works.</i>
2, Heath Street, Blackheath.	£20 16s. 0d.
3, Heath Street, Blackheath.	£27 1s. 6d.
4, Heath Street, Blackheath.	£24 18s. 6d.

The following orders have been dealt with by the local Authority
under section I of the Housing Act, 1930.

year.				
1935	Waggon Street compulsory purchase order	...	Comprising 89 houses 1 public house ... 14 other buildings	 6 houses, 1 public house and 14 other buildings were excluded by the Ministry in the Con- firmation Order.
	Tory Street compulsory purchase order	...	Comprising 39 houses	... Order confirmed by the Ministry of Health.
	Queen Street, Cradley Heath clearance area	...	Comprising 13 houses	... Order confirmed by the Ministry of Health.
	Lomey Town, Cradley Heath, clearance area	...	Comprising 7 houses	... Order confirmed by the Ministry of Health.
	No. 1 clearance area, Dudley Wood Road, Cradley Heath.	...	Comprising 6 houses	... Order confirmed by the Ministry of Health.
	No. 2 clearance area, Dudley Wood Road, Cradley Heath	...	Comprising 3 houses	... Order confirmed by the Ministry of Health.
	No. 1 clearance area, High Street, Cradley Heath	...	Comprising 4 houses	... Order confirmed by the Ministry of Health.
	No. 2 clearance area, High Street, Cradley Heath	...	Comprising 7 houses	... Order confirmed by the Ministry of Health.
	Siviter's Lane clearance area	...	Comprising 5 houses	... Order confirmed by the Ministry of Health.

The following is the position of the individual demolitions and clearance areas up-to-date.

Year.	Clearance Areas :—		Individual demolition.	Closing Orders.	Agreements made not to relet after vacation.
	No. of Areas.	No. of houses confirmed.			
1931	—	—	23	—	3
1932	—	—	25	—	—
1933	1	80	87	—	—
1934	4	63	19	6	3
1935	9	167	37	4	1
Totals	14	310	191	10	7

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Milk Supply.

There are 20 cow-keepers in the district, who have in occupation 35 separate cowsheds. The approximate number of milk cows is 233. The structural conditions and state of cleanliness are satisfactory in the main. There are four bottling establishments for sterilised milk and one for pasteurised milk in the district. All the premises are systematically inspected.

Number of retail purveyors of milk on register at 31st December, 1935	...	...	...	...	298
Number of wholesale traders and producers on register at 31st December, 1935	...	...	...	...	23
Supplementary licenses granted for selling grade milk	...	...	...	...	13

The County Medical Officer of Health has kindly supplied the following particulars of bacteriological examination of milk samples taken during the year in the Borough :—

Specially designated milk.

Number of samples submitted	...	...	...	22
Number satisfactory	...	...	...	21
Number unsatisfactory :				
Due to coliformbacilli	...	...	1	“ Grade A (T.T.) ”

Undesignated milk.

Number of samples submitted	...	...	...	39
Cleanliness—satisfactory	...	...	...	35
“ unsatisfactory	...	...	...	4
Tuberculous samples	...	...	...	2

(b) *Meat and other foods.*

Slaughterhouses.

There is no public slaughterhouse, but there are six registered and 18 licensed establishments. One knacker's yard is also licensed.

During the year the under-mentioned meat and food was condemned :—

				Weight (lbs).
Beast carcasses	...	...	...	2850
Beast livers	...	...	...	2664
Beast lungs	...	...	...	1955
Beast heads...	...	...	...	1441
Beast offal	...	...	...	3804
Sheep carcasses	...	...	...	204
Sheeps livers	...	...	...	655
Sheep lungs	...	...	...	156
Sheeps pluck	...	...	...	58
Pigs carcasses	...	...	...	1194
Pigs livers	...	...	...	24
Pigs heads	...	...	...	679½
Pigs lungs	...	...	...	22
Pigs pluck	...	...	...	106½
Peas	...	...	...	2600
Dates and figs	...	...	...	14
				18,427

8 tons. 4 cwts. 2 qrs. 3 lbs.

In addition to the above the following foods were condemned :—

Tins of fruit	...	...	...	26
Rabbits	...	...	...	10
Tins of condensed milk	...	...	...	115

(c) *Adulteration.*

(d) *Chemical and Bacteriological Examination of Food.*

The Staffordshire County Council is the Authority under the Food and Drugs Adulteration Act 1928 and I am indebted to the County Medical Officer for the following particulars of the various foods, etc., sampled in the Borough which have been submitted to the County Analyst during the year :—

Food and Drugs Adulteration Act, 1928.
Details of Sampling in Rowley Regis Borough during 1935.

Article of Food.	No. of Samples.	Genuine.	Adulterated.
Milk ...	69	65	4
General Foods (List given below) ...	27	22	5

Remarks on adulterated samples—Milk.

Three samples returned as adulterated, one of which was slightly deficient in fat while the other two contained a very small amount of added water, were taken from the same vendor who was cautioned.

The other adulterated sample was very slightly deficient in solids not fat, due to natural causes.

The samples of general foods returned as follows :—

Two samples purchased as butter were found to be margarine, and 2 samples purchased as lard were found to be a cooking fat, which is used as a substitute for lard.

These four samples were purchased from various shops belonging to the same retailer who was convicted and fined a total of £17 3s. 0d. including costs.

The same vendor was also prosecuted at a later date for selling margarine in a plain wrapper, and fined £5 0s. 0d.

The remaining adulterated sample was shredded beef suet containing ground rice which was sold without any notification of the presence of ground rice in the sample. On the retailers' attention being called to this, a notice was exhibited, so a caution was issued.

General Foods :

Article.	Number.	Genuine.	Adulterated.
Orange squash ...	1	1	—
Cornflour ...	1	1	—
Tapioca ...	1	1	—
Ground Rice ...	1	1	—
Shredded beef suet ...	2	1	1
Self raising flour ...	1	1	—
Custard Powder ...	1	1	—
Flaked beef suet ...	1	1	—
Sago ...	1	1	—
Macaroni ...	1	1	—
Butter ...	5	3	2
Lard ...	2	—	2
Tea ...	1	1	—
"Brown-it" ...	1	1	—
Margarine ...	3	3	—
Cocoa ...	1	1	—
Mixed Pickles ...	1	1	—
Condensed Milk ...	1	1	—
Mince Meat ...	1	1	—
Total ...	27	22	5

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

The following table gives the particulars required by the Ministry of Health :—

DISEASE	Cases Notified													Admitted to Isolation Hospital	Deaths												
	Under 1	1 to 2	2 to 3	3 to 4	4 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 65	65 & over	Total		Under 1	1 to 2	2 to 3	3 to 4	4 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 65	65 & over	Total
Smallpox	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria	...	1	5	5	4	56	23	6	3	...	1	...	104	1	...	1	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Scarlet Fever	...	2	3	2	7	46	8	5	8	...	...	...	81	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Enteric Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Puerperal Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	1	...	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	2
Pneumonia	3	1	6	1	3	8	5	8	20	15	14	5	89	4	4	1	1	2	...	1	1	4	6	4	6	...	34
Erysipelas	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	2	3	5	4	17	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Encephalitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Lethargica	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cerebro-spinal	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Meningitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1
Ophthalmia	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Neonatorum	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Acute	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Dysentery	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

SMALL POX.

No case occurred during the year, giving a case rate per 1,000 population of 0.00 as compared with 0.00 for England and Wales.

DIPHTHERIA.

104 cases were notified as against 70 last year. The case rate per 1,000 population was 2.45 against 1.60 for England and Wales. The annual death-rate per 1,000 population from this disease was 0.09 in Rowley Regis as compared with 0.08 for England and Wales, and 0.07 for the "Smaller Towns."

The table given below shows both the ward distribution and the monthly incidence of the cases.

Month.	Cradley Heath.	Old Hill.	Black-heath.	Rowley Regis.	Tividale	Monthly Totals.
January ...	—	9	1	2	3	15
February ...	—	6	1	5	14	26
March ...	3	—	—	3	6	12
April ...	1	2	1	1	3	8
May ...	1	—	—	2	5	8
June ...	1	—	—	1	4	6
July ...	2	1	3	2	4	12
August ...	—	—	—	2	1	3
September ...	—	2	—	—	4	6
October ...	—	1	—	—	2	3
November ...	1	—	1	—	—	2
December ...	1	1	1	—	—	3
Ward Totals ...	10	22	8	18	46	104

Diphtheria antitoxin is distributed to general medical practitioners as required, in doses containing 8,000 units each and 1,292,000 units were distributed in this way.

Isolation is arranged at the Hayley Green Infectious Diseases Hospital, to which 23 cases were admitted ; 41 cases were admitted to Little Bromwich and 1 case to Stallings Lane Brierley Hill.

Immunisation against diphtheria is carried out at all the clinics and during the year 106 cases were immunized. The procedure adopted is as follows :—cases requesting immunisation if over the age of 8 years are given a preliminary Schick test—under 5 years the preliminary test is dispensed with. Then three injections of 1.0 c.c. of Diphtheria Prophylactic Formol Toxoid (Burroughs Wellcome) are given at weekly intervals intramuscularly. Three to

six months later all cases are sent for and Schick tested. Any positive re-actions are given a further injection of 1.0 c.c. of Prophylactic.

Swabbing of the throats of school contacts is still carried out as a routine measure before their admission to school.

SCARLET FEVER.

81 cases were notified during the year as compared with 122 in 1934. The case rate per 1,000 population was 1.91 as compared with 2.96 for England and Wales. The annual death rate per 1,000 population from this disease was 0.05 in Rowley Regis as compared with 0.01 for England and Wales and 0.01 for the "smaller Towns." 11 cases were admitted to Hayley Green Hospital, 2 cases to Little Bromwich Hospital, 2 cases to West Bromwich Hospital and 7 cases to Stallings Lane, Brierley Hill Hospital. It was felt that the mild cases should be nursed at home if possible, and cases were only recommended to hospital where they were of a more severe type, or could not be satisfactorily isolated. It is, in fact, better for a mild case to be nursed at home as it may acquire, in hospital, a mixed infection leading to some complication.

The table given below shows both the distribution of the cases in the wards and the monthly incidence :—

Month.	Cradley Heath.	Old Hill.	Blackheath.	Rowley Regis.	Tividale	Monthly Totals.
January ...	2	2	1	—	2	7
February ...	—	7	3	2	1	13
March ...	3	2	—	1	1	7
April ...	3	1	—	—	—	4
May ...	1	1	—	2	1	5
June ...	—	3	3	—	2	8
July ...	—	2	1	1	6	10
August ...	—	1	—	3	—	4
September ...	—	1	—	—	—	1
October ...	—	3	1	—	3	7
November ...	1	1	2	4	2	10
December ...	—	2	—	3	—	5
Ward Totals ...	10	26	11	16	18	81

ENTERIC FEVER. (including Paratyphoid.)

No case occurred in 1935.

PUERPERAL FEVER AND PUERPERAL PYREXIA.

These conditions have already been discussed in the section of the report which deals with maternity and child welfare.

PNEUMONIA.

As 89 cases were notified with 34 deaths the case mortality was 38.20%. I feel that the provision of hospital beds for the treatment of this disease is an urgent public health question. It would pay us better, from the point of view of saving life, if we abolished the provision of hospital beds for scarlet fever, and transferred the accommodation thus made available to the treatment of pneumonia cases. A serum is now available which gives very good results in certain types of the disease, but it is still very expensive and it is not yet practicable or desirable for local authorities to supply it for treatment.

The table below shows both the distribution of the cases in the wards and the monthly incidence.

Month.	Cradley Heath.	Old Hill.	Black-Heath.	Rowley Regis.	Tividale.	Monthly Totals.
January ...	1	2	2	—	2	7
February ...	1	5	3	—	3	12
March ...	—	2	3	1	2	8
April ...	9	4	—	6	3	22
May ...	2	2	—	2	1	7
June ...	—	—	2	—	2	4
July ...	—	—	1	1	1	3
August ...	—	2	2	—	—	4
September ...	—	—	1	1	—	2
October ...	—	1	2	—	3	6
November ...	—	2	5	—	—	7
December ...	1	1	2	3	—	7
Ward Totals ...	14	21	23	14	17	89

ERYSIPELAS.

There were no deaths from this disease. 17 cases were notified giving a case rate per 1,000 population of 0.40 as compared with 0.42 for England and Wales.

EPIDEMIC DISEASES OF THE NERVOUS SYSTEM.

There was 1 death from cerebro-spinal meningitis. This case was not notified.

There were no notifications or deaths from acute poliomyelitis acute polio-encephalitis, or encephalitis lethargica.

MEASLES.

Measles caused 6 deaths in 1935 and the death rate per 1,000 population was 0.14 as compared with 0.03 for England and Wales and 0.03 for the "Smaller Towns." The provision of a certain number of hospital beds for the treatment of serious cases of measles, especially those complicated with broncho-pneumonia, would probably halve the mortality, as these cases require careful nursing and good surroundings, with free ventilation, conditions which they are frequently unable to obtain in over-crowded and insanitary houses.

Information as to cases is derived from the reports of the head teachers and school attendance officers, and cases are visited by the health visitors, advice being given as to isolation, etc. 74 cases were visited.

WHOOPING COUGH.

There were 10 deaths from whooping cough in 1935. The death rate per 1,000 population was 0.24 as compared with 0.04 for England and Wales and 0.03 for the 140 Smaller Towns.

If infection can be postponed until a child is of school age death is unlikely, whilst permanent immunity is achieved. The remarks made above under "Measles" as regards the importance of available hospital beds, and the objectives of public health work in regard to this disease, hold good also for whooping cough.

CANCER.

During 1935 there were 52 deaths from cancer and malignant disease as compared with 64 in 1934. The following table shows the number of deaths in males and females, and the ages at which these deaths occurred for each site separately.

Localisation of disease.				M.	F.	Total	Ages of Males. Females.	
Tongue	...	...	...	2	1	3	79, 57.	55
Stomach	...	...	...	4	4	8	48, 73, 47, 78.	79, 71, 71, 54.
Breast	...	...	...	—	3	3	—	41, 69, 55.
Nose	...	...	...	1	—	1	77	—
Ovary	...	...	...	—	2	2	—	43, 57.
Rectum	...	...	...	4	3	7	68, 47, 62, 69,	57, 46, 53.
Uterus	...	...	...	—	3	3	—	55, 61, 45.
Mouth	...	...	...	1	—	1	63	—
Colon	...	...	...	3	3	6	69, 78, 78,	59, 64, 58.
Liver	...	...	...	1	—	1	62	—
Laryngeal	...	...	...	3	—	3	65, 61, 75.	—
Other	...	...	...	8	6	14	72, 71, 42, 62, 44, 63, 74, 83	64, 52, 71, 73, 59, 73.

From a consideration of the above table it will be seen that, considering both sexes together, the greatest incidence of malignant disease fell upon the alimentary system.

No special action has been taken to impart information, nor has any special investigation been made with regard to these conditions. The facilities for treatment in this area appear to be very satisfactory and there seems to be no undue delay in securing either radium or operative treatment.

PREVENTION OF BLINDNESS.

No action has been taken under Section 66 of the Public Health (Amendment) Act, 1925, for the prevention of blindness or for the treatment of persons suffering from any disease or injury to the eyes.

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

The official table is as follows :—

Notified	Cases Treated.		Vision un-impaired.	Vision im-paired.	Total blind-ness.	Deaths.
	At Home.	In Hospital.				
28th Sept. 1935	—	1	1	—	—	—

Cases of the above-mentioned disease admitted to hospital were of a more severe type, and the value of hospital treatment in preventing damage to vision is apparent.

TUBERCULOSIS.

In the following table particulars are given of all new cases of tuberculosis and of all deaths from the disease in the year 1935.

Age Periods.	NEW CASES.				DEATHS.			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 year ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1— 5 years ...	1	—	1	—	—	—	1	—
5—10 years ...	—	1	1	1	—	—	—	1
10—15 years ...	2	1	1	1	—	—	—	—
15—20 years ...	3	5	—	1	—	2	—	—
20—25 years ...	3	3	2	1	3	2	—	—
25—35 years ...	5	6	—	3	3	4	—	—
35—45 years ...	3	2	—	—	2	—	—	—
45—55 years ...	4	5	1	—	2	3	—	—
55—65 years ...	2	—	—	—	1	3	1	—
65 years and upwards ...	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
Totals ...	23	24	6	7	12	14	2	1

Two persons who were on the tuberculosis register as notified cases died during the year and were removed from the register. They are not included in the figures of the deaths in the above table because the registered cause of death was a condition other than tuberculosis. One male aged 44 died from bronchitis and one female aged 18 died from cerebro-spinal meningitis.

Five cases came to the notice of the Medical Officer of Health otherwise than by primary notification. These were transfers into the district from other areas.

The number of cases notified during 1935 was 60 as against 65 for 1934.

Three cases died un-notified, one from pulmonary tuberculosis and two from non-pulmonary tuberculosis.

One post-humous notification was received.

As regards the pulmonary cases, the interval between notification and death was :—

Under one week in 1 case.

Between one week and one month in 5 cases.

Between one and three months in 4 cases.

Between three and six months in 2 cases.

Between six months and one year in 3 cases.

Over one year in 9 cases.

With reference to the cases of non-pulmonary disease the interval between notification and death was :—

Under 1 week in one case.

During the year 29 cases of pulmonary tuberculosis were admitted to hospital or sanatorium and 32 cases of pulmonary tuberculosis were discharged from hospital or sanatorium.

TUBERCULOUS CASES ON THE REGISTER AT 31st DECEMBER, 1935.

Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Total.
M.	F.	M.	F.	
165	140	87	79	471

The Borough Council possess a number of bedsteads which were formerly in use at the Isolation Hospital, Tividale, which has been demolished. These beds have been repaired and repainted and are loaned, when required, so as to enable tuberculous patients to be satisfactorily isolated in separate bedrooms.

The sites at which new cases and deaths from non-pulmonary tuberculosis occurred are given in the table below :—

Site.					New Cases.	Deaths.
Cervical Glands	...	...	...	...	5	—
Bones and Joints	...	...	...	...	5	—
Meningeal	...	...	...	...	2	2
Miliary	...	...	...	...	—	1
Other Organs	...	...	...	...	1	—
					13	3

Approximately one half of the cases of non-pulmonary tuberculosis are caused by the consumption of tuberculous milk and could be prevented by universal pastuerisation of milk.

No action has been taken under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, or under section 62 of the Public Health Act, 1925.

The Health visitors pay domiciliary visits, and during the year 1935, 72 visits and 676 re-visits were so paid.

BACTERIOLOGICAL WORK.

This is performed at the Staffordshire County Council's Laboratory and the following table shows the work done :—

		Positive.	Negative.	Total.
Sputum for Tubercle Bacilli	...	49	198	247
Swabs for Diphtheria Bacilli :				
Throat : 1st Report	... ..	26	66	92
2nd Report	... ..	2	15	17
Nose and Throat	.... ..	50	64	114
Tonsils : First Report	... ..	15	58	73
2nd Report	... ..	3	22	25
Nose	... ..	21	63	84
Fæces : 1st Report	... ..	—	4	4
2nd Report	... ..	—	3	3
Nose, Throat and Ear	... ..	—	5	5
Other Report	... ..	4	145	149
Virulence Tests : Nose and Throat	... ..	4	—	4
Nose	... ..	1	1	2
Throat	... ..	1	2	3
Other Reports	... ..	—	1	1
T.B. Report—Blood	... ..	—	1	1

No vaccinations were performed by the Medical Officer of Health under the Public Health (Small-pox Prevention) Regulations 1917.

DISINFECTION AND DISINFESTATION.

Disinfection is done in an old Washington Lyon type of apparatus which is almost in an obsolete condition. Provision is being made for an up-to-date building and plant. The rooms after infectious disease are fumigated with formaldehyde lamps. The following clothing has been disinfected and disinfested :—

DISINFECTED.

Beds	...	...	...	..	16
Bed cases	...	...	...	...	15
Bolsters	...	...	...	...	17
Bolster cases	...	...	...	...	17
Pillows	...	...	...	...	28
Pillow cases...	...	...	...	...	23
Counterpanes	...	...	...	...	3
Eiderdowns	...	...	...	...	5
Blankets and Sheets	...	...	...	...	52
Miscellaneous articles	...	...	...	...	41

DISINFESTATIONS BY STEAM.

Beds	...	...	...	...	66
Bed cases	...	...	...	...	60
Bolsters	...	...	...	...	44
Bolster cases	...	...	...	...	41
Pillows	...	...	...	...	81
Pillow cases...	...	...	...	...	76
Counterpanes	...	...	...	...	17
Eiderdowns	...	...	...	...	10
Blankets and sheets	...	...	...	...	203
Miscellaneous articles	...	...	...	...	96

Destroyed by fire.

Beds	...	...	...	...	7
Pillows	...	...	...	...	4
Bolsters	...	...	...	...	5
Straw mattresses	...	...	...	...	28

Disinfestations by spraying etc.

The following premises and contents have been disinfested of vermin by spraying, 98 ; by sulphur fumigation, 12 ; by cyanide gas, 15.

HEALTH PROPAGANDA.

The Empire Marketing Board's Poster Frames are now being used for health propaganda purposes. Health talks are given by members of the staff to the women attending the various clinics. Posters supplied by the Health and Cleanliness Council and the Dental Board are exhibited in the schools and clinics.







